JS 44 (Rev. 02/19)

Case 2/20-py-01352-KSM Document 1 Filed 03/06/20 Page 1 of 16 CIVIL COVER SHEET 20 1

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE EXCEPTION OF VIEW PACE OF THE FORM)

purpose of initiating the civil do	eket sheet. (SEE INSTRUC.	TIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF	· THIS FO	PRM.)			
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANTS			
Kirby Eldredge				Harrah's Casino and Racetrack			
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.			
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)				Attorneys (If Known)			
Drake P. Bearden, Jr., Co 18000 Horizon Way, Ste		3054, 856-727-9700)				
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	ÇTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)		TIZENSHIP OF P. (For Diversity Cases Only)	RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintif and One Box for Defendant)	
☐ 1 U.S. Government			PT en of This State □				
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi	p of Parties in Item III)	Citiz	en of Another State 🛛	2		
				en or Subject of a 🗔 reign Country	3 🗇 3 Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6	
IV. NATURE OF SUIT						of Suit Code Descriptions.	
CONTRACT		RTS		ORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES 7 175 Felse Claums Agt	
□ 110 Insurance □ 120 Marine □ 130 Müller Act □ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment ∞ Enforcement of Judgment □ 151 Medicare Act □ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) □ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits □ 160 Stockholders' Suits □ 190 Other Contract □ 195 Contract Product Liability □ 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY □ 210 Land Condemnation □ 220 Foreclosure □ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment □ 240 Torts to Land □ 245 Tort Product Liability □ 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury 362 Personal Injury Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other 447 Education	Other:	O 69 O 77 O 77 O 79 O 79	25 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 20 Other LABOR 10 Fair Labor Standards Act 20 Labor/Management Relations 40 Railway Labor Act 51 Family and Medical Leave Act 90 Other Labor Litigation 91 Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION 62 Naturalization Application 65 Other Immigration Actions	□ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 □ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS □ 820 Copyrights □ 835 Patent □ 835 Patent □ 835 Patent □ 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS □ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) □ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	□ 375 False Claims Act □ 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) □ 400 State Reapportionment □ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations □ 480 Consumer Credit □ 485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act □ 490 Cable/Sat TV □ 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange □ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 895 Freedom of Information Act □ 896 Arbitration □ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision □ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	
ORIGIN (Place an "X" is		Confinement	3.4 D.:		erred from 0 6 Multidist	rict	
	te Court	Appellate Court	Reo	(specify)	r District Litigation Transfer		
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	N Americans with E	isabilities Act		Do not cite jurisdictional stat		······································	
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:		IS A CLASS ACTION		ility discrimination, a EMAND \$		vif demanded in complaint: ; □ Yes □ No	
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	(See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKET NUMBER	MAR - 6 2020	
DATE 02/14/2020		SIGNATURE OF AT	FORNEY (OF RECORD			
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT # AM	10UNT	APPLYING IFP			MAG, JU	DGE	

KSM

20-CV-1352

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

20

Attorney I.D. # (if applicable)

1352

(to be used by counsel or pro se plainti	DESIGNATION FORM iff to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of	fussignment to the appropriate calendar)					
	33 Brianwood Lane Pittsgrove	Twn., NJ 08318					
Address of Defendant:	777 Harrah's Boulevard, Chester, PA 19013						
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction:	777 Harrah's Boulevard, Chester, PA 19013						
RELATED CASE, IF ANY:							
Case Number:	Judge:	Date Terminated:					
Civil cases are deemed related when Yes is answere		r 21					
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one year Yes No.							
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior suit Yes No							
Does this case involve the validity or intringen numbered case pending or within one year pre-	nent of a patent already in suit or any earlier viously terminated action of this court?	Yes No V					
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas curpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil rights Yes No Yes							
this court except as noted above. DATE: 02/14/2020	Attorney-at-Law / Pro Se Plaintiff	308035 Anorroy I.D. #(if applicable)					
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NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if there has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.

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Kirby Eldredge

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

CIVIL ACTION

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Harrah's Casino and	Racetrack :	NO.	
plaintiff shall complete a Case filing the complaint and serve side of this form.) In the ev designation, that defendant shall other part	Justice Expense and Delay Red Management Track Designation a copy on all defendants. (See § 2) rent that a defendant does not a sall, with its first appearance, subject, a Case Management Track I wes the case should be assigned.	n Form in all civil cases at 1:03 of the plan set forth on gree with the plaintiff reg omit to the clerk of court a	the reverse arding said nd serve on
SELECT ONE OF THE FO	LLOWING CASE MANAGEN	MENT TRACKS:	
(a) Habeas Corpus – Cases b	rought under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 t	hrough § 2255.	()
(b) Social Security – Cases re and Human Services deny	equesting review of a decision of ving plaintiff Social Security Ber	the Secretary of Health nefits.	()
(c) Arbitration – Cases requi	red to be designated for arbitration	on under Local Civil Rule	53.2. ()
(d) Asbestos – Cases involving exposure to asbestos.	ng claims for personal injury or p	property damage from	()
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(f) Standard Management –	Cases that do not fall into any or	ne of the other tracks.	$($ $\stackrel{\raisebox{.4ex}{$\scriptstyle{\times}$}}{\hspace{4ex}{\times}})$
2/14/20	Attorney-at-law	PAINTE Attorney for	
Date 8567279700	8567279797	DZ SARDENE (OSTECLOMAINS.COM
536 18111°°			
Telephone	FAX Number	E-Mail Address	

(Civ. 660) 10/02

Case 2:20-cv-01352-KSM Document 1 Filed 03/06/20 Page 4 of 16

COSTELLO & MAINS, LLC

By: Drake P. Bearden, Jr., Esquire 18000 Horizon Way, Suite 800 Mount Laurel, NJ 08054 (856) 727-9700 Attorneys for Plaintiff

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

KIRBY ELDREDGE, : CIVIL ACTION

Plaintiff, : 20 1352

vs. : DOCKET NO:

:

HARRAH'S CASINO AND RACETRACK,

Defendants. : COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff, Kirby Eldredge, residing in the State of New Jersey, by way of Complaint against the Defendants, says:

Preliminary Statement

This matter is opened to the Court pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act ("PHRA") alleging disability discrimination, perception of disability discrimination, and retaliation.

Jurisdiction and Venue

Jurisdiction of the Court is invoked pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1343(3) and the aforementioned statutory provisions.

Jurisdiction lies over the state law claims based on the principles of supplemental jurisdiction as codified at 28 U.S.C. § 1367.

The amount in controversy, exclusive of interest, fees and costs exceeds the sum of \$100,000.00.

All claims herein arose within the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and involve a Defendant who resides within the jurisdictional limits. Venue has accordingly been invoked pursuant to the dictates of 28 U.S.C. § 1391 (b) and (c).

Plaintiff exhausted her administrative remedies pursuant to the ADA and PHRA claims in that she filed a claim with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC"), which was filed concurrently with the PHRC.

On January 9, 2020, Plaintiff was issued a Right to Sue Letter from the EEOC.

Identification of Parties

- 1. Plaintiff Kirby Eldredge was, at all times relevant herein, a resident of the State of New Jersey, who previously worked for Defendant Harrah's Casino and Racetrack.
- 2. Defendant Harrah's Casino and Racetrack was, at all times relevant herein, a corporation registered and operating in the State of Pennsylvania, with offices located at 777 Harrah's Boulevard, Chester Pennsylvania 19013.

General Allegations

- Plaintiff began working for Defendant as a table's game dealer in or around
 January 2019.
- 4. Defendant terminated Plaintiff from her employment on or around August 15, 2019.
 - 5. Plaintiff was injured at work on or about July 27, 2019.
 - 6. In particular, Plaintiff fell at work and injured both her arm and her shoulder.

- 7. When the pit boss, Omar, saw Plaintiff was bleeding, he told Plaintiff to file an incident report.
- 8. Plaintiff wanted to work the following day; however, due to her injury, Plaintiff was having difficulty performing her job and left to go to the hospital.
 - 9. Plaintiff was diagnosed with a neck sprain and cervical sprain.
- 10. Plaintiff was held out of work for the next two (2) days as a result of her disability.
- Plaintiff provided medical information from her medical provider to the head table boss, Christina Herrera.
 - 12. Plaintiff was schedule to return to work on August 2, 2019.
- 13. On or around August 1, 2019, Plaintiff spoke to the risk and safety management department employee, Martin Murray, regarding her return to work.
- 14. Plaintiff provided Murray with paperwork from the hospital regarding her disability.
 - 15. Plaintiff returned to work as she was scheduled to on August 2, 2019.
- 16. On or around August 5, 2019, Plaintiff visited the working doctor as she was instructed to by Defendant.
- 17. The working doctor placed Plaintiff on work restrictions beginning August 6, 2019.
- 18. The restrictions included that Plaintiff was restricted from bending, reaching her right arm in any activities that involved her moving her hand above her right shoulder.
- 19. Plaintiff met with Murray the following day regarding the restrictions provided by the Defendant's working doctor.

- 20. Murray stated that as a result of Plaintiff's medical restrictions, Murray was placing Plaintiff in the income controlled department.
- 21. On or around August 7, 2019, a scheduler named Christine, left Plaintiff approximately 200 packets to pull staples out of and scan.
- 22. Plaintiff performed this tasked despite the fact that it caused Plaintiff to engage in physical activity that was outside of her restrictions, and caused pain to Plaintiff's injured arm and shoulder.
 - 23. Plaintiff saw her doctor the following day.
- 24. Plaintiff's doctor ordered that Plaintiff not perform tasks where she would have to specifically pull out staples.
- 25. Plaintiff provided this information to Murray, and Plaintiff was no longer required to remove staples from large packets.
 - 26. On or around August 8, 2019, Plaintiff spoke to Murray regarding her schedule.
 - 27. At the time, Plaintiff's scheduled days off were Monday and Sunday.
- 28. However, Plaintiff suggested that perhaps she should move her days off to Monday and Tuesday since Sunday was one of the busiest days for Defendant.
- 29. Murray agreed that Plaintiff's days off would be moved from Sunday and Monday to Monday and Tuesday.
 - 30. As a result of this change in schedule, Plaintiff worked Sunday, August 11, 2019.
- 31. Plaintiff was off Tuesday, August 13, 2019, as a result of the change in her schedule.
- 32. On that date, Plaintiff called Murray and stated that if she could not obtain childcare for Wednesday, August 14, 2019, she would not be able to work that day.

- Plaintiff could not obtain childcare for that day, and as such, called out on August 14, 2019.
 - 34. Plaintiff came to work the following day, August 15, 2019.
- 35. On that date, Christine approached Plaintiff and brought her to the office with two(2) members of upper management, Robert Barger and Lynn Tribuo.
- 36. Christine told Plaintiff that she was terminated for points as a result of Plaintiff calling out.
- 37. At the time of her termination, Plaintiff was performing her job up to expectations.
- Plaintiff's scheduled had changed as a result of her medical condition, and her conversation with Murray.
 - 39. Plaintiff was "disabled" within the meaning of the ADA and PHRA.
- 40. In addition or in the alternative, Plaintiff was perceived a "disabled" by Defendant.
- 41. At the time Defendant terminated Plaintiff from her employment, Plaintiff was capable of performing all of the essential functions of his job with or without a reasonable accommodation.
- 42. A determinative or motivating factor in Defendant's decision to terminate Plaintiff was Plaintiff's disability.
- 43. In addition or in the alternative, a determinative and/or motivating factor in Defendant's decision to terminate Plaintiff was Defendant's perception that Plaintiff was disabled.

- 44. Plaintiff was further a member of a protected class as an individual who advanced her rights pursuant to the ADA and PHRA in making a request for an accommodation due to her disability.
- 45. Plaintiff was subjected to adverse employment actions including, but not limited to, being terminated as a result of making a request for an accommodation.
- 46. Plaintiff's membership in one or more of the protected groups set forth above was a determinative and/or motivating factor in the adverse employment actions taken against her.
- 47. Because the discrimination and retaliation was knowing, intentional and purposeful, punitive damages are warranted because the conduct was undertaken by members of upper management.
- 48. To the extent that there is any "mixed motive," Plaintiff need only show that a determinative and/or motivating factor in the conduct directed towards her was because of her membership in one or more of the protected groups set forth above.
- 49. As a result of the unlawful conduct outlined above, Plaintiff has been forced to suffer both economic and non-economic harm.

COUNT I

Disability Discrimination Under the ADA

- 50. Plaintiff hereby repeats and realleges paragraphs 1 through 49, as though fully set forth herein.
- 51. The conduct set forth above constitutes disability discrimination and is the responsibility of Defendant both in compensatory and punitive damages for the reasons set forth above.

6

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against the Defendants jointly, severally and in the alternative, together with compensatory damages including emotional distress and personal hardship, punitive damages, interest, cost of suit, attorneys' fees, enhanced attorneys' fees, equitable back pay, equitable front pay, equitable reinstatement, equitable instatement or promotion, and any other relief the Court deems equitable and just.

COUNT II

Discrimination Based on Perception of Disability Under the ADA

- 52. Plaintiff hereby repeats and realleges paragraphs 1 through 51, as though fully set forth herein.
- 53. Plaintiff was subjected to discrimination based on Defendants perception that she was disabled that had an adverse effect on her employment.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against the Defendants jointly, severally and in the alternative, together with compensatory damages, including emotional distress and personal hardship, punitive damages, interest, cost of suit, attorneys' fees, enhanced attorneys' fees, equitable back pay, equitable front pay, equitable reinstatement, equitable instatement or promotion, and any other relief the Court deems equitable and just.

COUNT III

Retaliation Under the ADA

- 54. Plaintiff hereby repeats and realleges paragraphs 1 through 53 as though fully set forth herein.
- 55. Plaintiff engaged in protected activity under the ADA in that she made a request for a reasonable accommodation due to her disability.

56. As a result of Plaintiff' engaging in protected activity, she was subjected to adverse employment actions, including, but not limited to, being terminated from her employment

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against the Defendants jointly, severally and in the alternative, together with compensatory damages, including emotional distress and personal hardship, punitive damages, interest, cost of suit, attorneys' fees, enhanced attorneys' fees, equitable back pay, equitable front pay, equitable reinstatement, equitable instatement or promotion, and any other relief the Court deems equitable and just.

COUNT IV

Disability Discrimination Under the PHRA

- 57. Plaintiff hereby repeats and realleges paragraphs 1 through 56, as though fully set forth herein.
- 58. The conduct set forth above constitutes disability discrimination and is the responsibility of Defendant both in compensatory and punitive damages for the reasons set forth above.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against the Defendants jointly, severally and in the alternative, together with compensatory damages, including emotional distress and personal hardship, punitive damages, interest, cost of suit, attorneys' fees, enhanced attorneys' fees, equitable back pay, equitable front pay, equitable reinstatement, equitable instatement or promotion, and any other relief the Court deems equitable and just.

COUNT V

Discrimination Based on Perception of Disability Under the PHRA

- 59. Plaintiff hereby repeats and realleges paragraphs 1 through 58, as though fully set forth herein.
- 60. Plaintiff was subjected to discrimination based on Defendant's perception that she was disabled that had an adverse effect on her employment.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against the Defendants jointly, severally and in the alternative, together with compensatory damages, including emotional distress and personal hardship, punitive damages, interest, cost of suit, attorneys' fees, enhanced attorneys' fees, equitable back pay, equitable front pay, equitable reinstatement, equitable instatement or promotion, and any other relief the Court deems equitable and just.

COUNT VI

Retaliation Under the PHRA

- 61. Plaintiff hereby repeats and realleges paragraphs 1 through 60, as though fully set forth herein.
- 62. Plaintiff engaged in protected activity under the PHRA in that she made a request for a reasonable accommodation due to her disability.
- 63. As a result in Plaintiff engaging in protected activity, she was subjected to adverse employment actions, including, but not limited to, being terminated from her employment.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against the Defendants jointly, severally and in the alternative, together with compensatory damages, including emotional distress and personal hardship, punitive damages, interest, cost of suit, attorneys' fees, enhanced attorneys'

fees, equitable back pay, equitable front pay, equitable reinstatement, equitable instatement or promotion, and any other relief the Court deems equitable and just.

COUNT VII

Request for Equitable Relief

- 64. Plaintiff hereby repeats and realleges paragraphs 1 through 63, as though fully set forth herein.
 - 65. Plaintiff requests the following equitable remedies and relief in this matter.
- 66. Plaintiff requests a declaration by this Court that the practices contested herein violate federal law or Pennsylvania law as set forth herein.
- 67. Plaintiff requests that this Court order the defendants to cease and desist all conduct inconsistent with the claims made herein going forward, both as to the specific plaintiff and as to all other individuals similarly situated.
- 68. To the extent that plaintiff was separated from employment and to the extent that the separation is contested herein, plaintiff requests equitable reinstatement, with equitable back pay and front pay.
- 69. Plaintiff requests, that in the event that equitable reinstatement and/or equitable back pay and equitable front pay is ordered to the plaintiff, that all lost wages, benefits, fringe benefits and other remuneration is also equitably restored to the plaintiff.
- 70. Plaintiff requests that the Court equitably order the defendants to pay costs and attorneys' fees along with statutory and required enhancements to said attorneys' fees.

71. Plaintiff requests that the Court order the defendants to alter their files so as to expunge any reference to which the Court finds violates the statutes implicated herein.

72. Plaintiff requests that the Court do such other equity as is reasonable, appropriate and just.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff demands judgment against the defendants jointly, severally and in the alternative, together with compensatory damages, punitive damages, interest, cost of suit, attorneys' fees, enhanced attorneys' fees, equitable back pay, equitable front pay, equitable reinstatement, and any other relief the Court deems equitable and just.

By:

Drake P. Bearden, Jr.

Dated: February 14, 2020

DEMAND FOR A TRIAL BY JURY

1. Plaintiff, by and through his above-signed counsel, hereby demands, pursuant to *Rule* 38(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, a trial by jury on all counts in the above-captioned action.

COSTELLO & MAINS, LLC

By:

Drake P. Bearden, Jr.

DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL

Drake P. Bearden, Esquire, of the law firm of Costello & Mains, LLC, is herebydesignated trial counsel.

COSTELLO & MAINS, LLC

By:

Drake P. Bearden, Jr.

DEMAND TO PRESERVE EVIDENCE

1. All defendants are hereby directed and demanded to preserve all physical and electronic information pertaining in any way to plaintiff's employment, to plaintiff's cause of action and/or prayers for relief, to any defenses to same, and pertaining to any party, including, but not limited to, electronic data storage, closed circuit TV footages, digital images, computer images, cache memory, searchable data, emails, spread sheets, employment files, memos, text messages and any and all online social or work related websites, entries on social networking sites (including, but not limited to, Facebook, twitter, MySpace, etc.), and any other information and/or data and/or things and/or documents which may be relevant to any claim or defense in this litigation.

2. Failure to do so will result in separate claims for spoliation of evidence and/or for appropriate adverse inferences.

COSTELLO & MAINS, LLC

Drake P. Bearden, Jr